

Public Health
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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT.

WESTMORLAND COUNTY COUNCIL COPY



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

**County Medical
Officer of Health**

THE YEAR 1950

TITUS WILSON, KENDAL

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COUNTY OF WESTMORLAND

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
COUNTY HALL, KENDAL.

September, 1951.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for 1950.

The vital statistics of the County shew no marked variation from last year. The birth rate has levelled off and shews a tendency to decline; it is still below the general level for the country. The death rate shews a slight fall from last year but is still appreciably above the death rate for England and Wales. The explanation given in previous reports still holds good, namely, that the Lake District attracts elderly and retired people from the more industrial parts of the country with a corresponding decrease in births and greater increase in deaths.

The infant mortality rate is, unfortunately, appreciably worse than it was last year. This is not due to any one specific cause and one must assume that there will be a greater fluctuation owing to the relatively small number of population under consideration. The chief causes of deaths of infants under one year are shewn on the tables on page 9. The chief causes of death in the County are due to cardio-vascular conditions and cancer.

There have been no cases of diphtheria within the County during the past year and the number of cases of acute poliomyelitis is the same as in 1949. There has been quite an increase in the number of cases of food poisoning during the past year.

The Ambulance and Hospital Car Services have been used to a considerable extent during the past year, and arrangements made in the past have proved adequate to the task. The bulk of the work has undoubtedly fallen on the Kendal station but good use has been made of the other ambulances stationed in the more remote parts of the County. There is still a considerable amount of congestion in the housing of these vehicles in Kendal and when building materials are more available some thought should be given to the building of more suitable premises. The Hospital Car Service has continued to function well; the Council owns no sitting case cars but relies on the services of voluntary drivers recruited through the British Red Cross and on the use of taxis. We are finding that, in general, the number of the former is becoming smaller and we are having to make increasing use of taxis, especially in the north of the County where the number of the voluntary car drivers has been insufficient for the task. The use of this service has grown by leaps and bounds and there is no indication that it has reached its peak.

The nursing services which in Westmorland include health visiting, midwifery, district nursing and school work continue satisfactorily. The strength of the nurses has remained at its maximum although there is a considerable shortage in general of qualified nurses. Provision of houses for nurses makes slight headway, largely through circumstances beyond our control. The County Architect has found great difficulty in finding builders willing to undertake contracts in the more remote parts of the County.

Care of mothers and young children: The welfare centres have been well attended during the past year although the average number seen is just a little below what it was in 1949. There has been a substantial decline in the number of midwifery cases undertaken by the district nurses. This reflects a change that has occurred in varying degree throughout the rest of the country as a result of the National Health Service Act. This is a feature that must be watched with some care.

The Home Help Service is linked with the nursing services and the Superintendent Nursing Officer acts as Supervisor of Home Helps. This entirely new service has fulfilled a want and is greatly appreciated throughout the country. Such is the demand on the service that each case must be judged on its merits before home help is supplied.

The Care and After-Care Service has had a little more work to do than previously. A scheme is now under way whereby a person suffering from tuberculosis, and who is thought to be a suitable case by the Tuberculosis Officer, is visited by the Occupational Therapist and given instruction in leather craft or other handiwork, and many of the patients have availed themselves of her services. The scattered nature of the patients and the long distances involved has been an obstacle but nevertheless the majority of suitable cases are visited regularly and the scheme has resulted in making the lives of these unfortunate people happier.

There has been no substantial change in the Mental Health Service which has worked really satisfactorily during the past year. This work, previously undertaken by a voluntary body, is now done by an officer of the County. Thus, the service is on a much more satisfactory footing and I hold there has been much closer co-operation with both hospitals and patients themselves than ever before. The handicrafts class in Kendal has proved a great boon to those patients who are able to attend. The Mental Health Worker acts as a Duly Authorised Officer.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN A. GUY,

County Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY IN 1950

NAME.	QUALIFICATIONS.	OFFICE.	Whole or Part Time.	OTHER OFFICES.
John A. Guy	M.D., D.P.H.	County Medical Officer	Whole	School Medical Officer.
C. Fleming	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Deputy County Medical Officer (Resigned 30-9-50)	Whole	Deputy School Medical
F. M. Taylor	M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., (Lond.)	Asst. County Medical Officer	Whole	Asst. School Medical Officer
J. Munro Campbell	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Tuberculosis Officer	Part	Physician Superin- tendent, Meathop Sanatorium
John Irvine	L.D.S.	Senior Dental Officer	Whole	Senior School Dental Officer
A. S. Carter	M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.D.S.	Assist. Dental Officer	Whole	Assist. School Dental Officer
A. Skinner		Mental Health Worker (Appointed 3-1-50)	Whole	
E. M. Thomas	S.R.N., S.C.M.	Superintendent Nursing Officer	Whole	

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres, land and inland water)	504,917
Population (Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, mid-1950)	66,570
Total Rateable Value as on 1st April, 1950	£459,677
Estimated product of a Penny Rate (General County) for the financial year 1950-51	£1,821

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS IN THE YEAR 1949

	Total.	Males.	Females.
Live Births—Legitimate	921	474	447
Illegitimate	48	27	21
	—	—	—
Total births	696	501	468
	—	—	—

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ... 14.6
 Birth Rate, England and Wales, 15.8.

Total. Males. Females.

Stillbirths	24	17	7
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths, 24.17.			

	Total.	Males.	Females.
Deaths	922	446	476

Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 13.9.

Death Rate, England and Wales, 11.6.

Deaths from Diseases and Accidents of Pregnancy or Child-birth 1

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, for the purpose of calculating Maternal Mortality, 1.03.

Maternal Mortality Rate, England and Wales, per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 0.86.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 total live births 43.34

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ... 42.34

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... 62.5

Infant Death Rate, England and Wales, 29.8.

Deaths from:—

	1949.	1950.
Cancer (all ages)	121	155
Measles (all ages)	1	—
Whooping Cough (all ages)	1	—
Diarrhoea (under two years)	2	—

POPULATION

DISTRICT	Area in acres (Land and Inland Water)	POPULATION
		Registrar General's estimate Mid.-1950
URBAN		
Appleby	1,877	1,720
Lakes	49,917	5,303
Kendal	3,705	18,450
Windermere	9,723	6,447
RURAL		
North Westmorland ..	288,688	17,050
South Westmorland ..	151,007	17,600
Westmorland ..	504,917	66,570

BIRTH RATE, 1949 and 1950

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population.

District					Birth Rate 1949	Birth Rate 1950
URBAN						
Appleby	..	..	..	..	15.1	16.1
Kendal	..	..	..	..	15.2	15.5
Lakes	..	..	..	..	11.0	8.9
Windermere	..	..	..	..	15.3	12.9
RURAL						
North Westmorland	..	..	..	..	17.9	17.4
South Westmorland	..	..	..	..	16.4	16.6
WESTMORLAND					15.9	14.6
England and Wales	..	..	..	..	16.7	15.8

The Birth Rates for 1949 are the crude figures, but those for 1950 (except the one for the County as a whole) are calculated using the comparability factors supplied for the purpose by the Registrar-General. The comparability factor for the whole County is not, however, available.

Live Births registered in the last five years were as follows:—

Year	...	...	...	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
Number of births	...	...	...	1,179	1,222	1,039	1,053	969

DEATH RATE, 1948, 1949 and 1950

Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population.

District.	Death Rate. 1948.	Death Rate. 1949.	Death Rate. 1950.
URBAN.			
Appleby	10.1	12.7	14.7
Kendal	13.7	13.3	13.7
Lakes	13.4	13.0	13.9
Windermere	11.6	12.9	11.0
RURAL.			
North Westmorland	12.5	13.1	11.4
South Westmorland	12.4	11.4	11.4
WESTMORLAND	12.7	12.7	13.9
ENGLAND and WALES	10.8	11.7	11.6

The Death Rates for 1948 are the crude figures, but those for 1949 and 1950 are calculated using the Comparability Factor provided for the purpose by the Registrar-General. The Death Rates for the County as a whole are given as crude figures, as no comparability factor is available.

The chief causes of death in Westmorland in 1948, 1949 and 1950, in order of maximum fatality in 1950, were as follows:—

	No. of deaths 1948.	No. of deaths 1949.	No. of deaths 1950.
Heart Disease	291	341	329
Cancer	135	121	155
Cerebral Haemorrhage	114	120	124
Other Circulatory Diseases	42	35	42
Violence	35	41	29
Bronchitis	22	33	23
Pneumonia	11	17	23
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	17	20	20
Digestive Diseases	27	40	16
Nephritis	23	24	16
Other Respiratory Diseases	9	14	9

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE
INFANTILE MORTALITY. (Under 1 year)

Rate per 1,000 Live Births.

District.				1948.	1949.	1950.
URBAN.						
Appleby	...	...	...	41.7	Nil	Nil
Kendal	...	...	...	44.7	50.4	52.5
Lakes	...	...	...	15.2	Nil	65.2
Windermere	...	...	...	20.8	20.4	35.3
RURAL.						
North Westmorland	...	...	...	41.4	23.0	33.7
South Westmorland	...	...	...	44.1	41.5	46.2
WESTMORLAND	...	...	...	39.5	33.2	43.3
ENGLAND and WALES	...	...	...	34.0	32.0	29.8

ILLEGITIMATE INFANT DEATH RATE

Rate per 1,000 illegitimate Live Births.

	1948.	1949.	1950.
WESTMORLAND	67.80	52.63	62.5
ENGLAND and WALES	45.34	46.0	Not available

Causes of Death in Infants under 1 year in 1950:—

Congenital Malformations	...	...	...	11
All other accidents	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	5
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	...	...	...	3
Other defined and ill-defined Diseases	...	...	...	22

DISTRICT MIDWIFERY, HEALTH VISITING AND HOME NURSING

Prior to 5th July, 1948, the County Council's duties in respect of Health Visiting, Tuberculosis Visiting, School Nursing and Domiciliary Midwifery outside Kendal, were performed through the agency of the Westmorland County Nursing Association and its affiliated District Nursing Associations, who employed a total of 33 District Nurse-Midwives.

From the Appointed Day, however, the County Council took into direct employment all the District Nurse Midwives and carried out all these functions directly, utilising the local knowledge and experience of the Nursing Associations through the local District Nursing Committees which have been appointed.

Apart from the fact that the staff undertaking these duties have, since the appointed day, been employed directly by the County Council, the most notable change in regard to these services is the extended scope of the "Health Visiting". Instead of being restricted as hitherto to the supervision and care of expectant and nursing mothers, and children under five years of age, the Health Visitor is now responsible for advising on the care of any member of the household suffering from illness, and particularly with regard to the prevention of the spread of infection. These additional functions of the Health Visitor are not intended to overlap, but rather to supplement, those of the family doctor, sanitary inspector and home nurse.

Supervision of Midwives

As advised in Ministry of Health Circular 118/47, the County Council appointed a Superintendent Nursing Officer to co-ordinate the work of the midwifery, home nursing and health visiting services, and this officer was also appointed Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives. The Assistant County Medical Officer was designated Medical Supervisor of Midwives.

As a result of the National Health Service Act, the Kendal Corporation ceased to be a Child Welfare Authority, and to facilitate the future administration of the service, the responsibility for this work was in fact transferred to the County Council on 1st January, 1948. Because of this change, and also the wider changes brought about by the Act, the figures given in various parts of this report will often be seen to differ considerably from those given for previous years.

The Statistical Tables at the end of this Report are a simplified version of the Annual Return to the Ministry.

Domiciliary Maternity Nursing

		1950.	1949.	1948.
Number of Midwifery cases	...	109	104	119
„ Maternity cases	...	203	228	216
		---	---	---
		312	332	335
		---	---	---

Infant Welfare

		1950.	1949.	1948.
Total Health Visits to Infants				
under 1 year	... ..	10,103	7,626	7,615
Total Health Visits to Children 1-5				
years	... ..	12,674	9,530	8,837

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Immunisation against diphtheria, previously the responsibility of the County Council and District Councils concurrently, is now the responsibility of the County Council alone. The treatment is given, either by the County Council medical staff or the general practitioners according as the parents choose, at or before the first birthday, whilst all parents are urged to consent to their children receiving a reinforcing dose on attaining the age of 5 years.

The success of this scheme may be judged from the fact that for the third consecutive year there were no cases of diphtheria notified amongst residents of the County, compared with, for example, 21 notifications and 2 deaths in 1937. Details of children immunised during the year, including those receiving reinforcing doses, are given below:—

Number of children immunised during the year 1950	...	1,403
Of these, 791 were under 5 years of age;		
40 were between 5-14 years of age; and		
572 received re-immunisation or "booster" doses.		

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

With the coming into effect of the National Health Service Act, the Vaccination Acts, 1871-1907, were repealed, the offices of Vaccination Officer and Public Vaccinator were abolished, and it became the duty of the Local Health Authority to make arrangements for the vaccination against smallpox of all persons who need or desire this treatment.

It is the duty of the Health Visitors to urge all parents to have their children vaccinated as soon as practicable after birth, and all medical practitioners in the County were given an opportunity of carrying out this treatment under the County Council's arrangements. A record of the treatment is sent to the County Medical Officer, and fees are payable in respect of each report received.

Lymph is supplied free through the Public Health Laboratory Service, and the Council has also taken power, in its proposals, to make such special arrangements as may be necessary in the event of a threatened epidemic of smallpox.

Details of vaccinations carried out during 1950 are:—

		Under 1 year.	1-4 years.	5-14 years.	15 years and over.	Total.
Age at date of vaccination:						
Number vaccinated	...	351	48	63	30	492
„ re-vaccinated	...	—	4	17	120	141

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES

Details of Infant Welfare Centres in operation at the end of the year are given below, the Centre at Orton having been closed during the year:—

<i>Area.</i>	<i>Centre held at:</i>	<i>Frequency of Sessions.</i>
Ambleside	.. Y.M.C.A.	.. Monthly
Appleby	.. Old First Aid Post	.. Fortnightly
Bampton	.. Church Hall	.. Monthly
Bowness-on-W'mere	.. Rayrigg Room	.. „
Burneside	.. Bryce Institute	.. „
Calgarth	.. Social Centre	.. „
Kendal	.. School Clinic, Stramongate	.. Weekly
Kirkby Stephen	.. Friends' Meeting House	.. Fortnightly
Milnthorpe	.. Institute Annexe	.. Monthly
Shap	.. Methodist Chapel Hall	.. „
Staveley	.. Working Men's Institute	.. „
Tebay	.. Methodist Chapel Hall	.. „
Temple Sowerby	.. Church Hall	.. „
Windermere	.. Y.M.C.A.	.. „
Wickersgill	.. Social Centre	.. „

Once again thanks are due to the local branches of the British Red Cross Society, the St. John Organisation and all other voluntary workers, for their assistance in the running of the Centres.

Attendances at Centres

		1950.	1949.	1948.
Under 1 year	... ..	2,270	2,535	3,282
Over 1 year	... ..	2,387	4,736	2,389
Average per session	...	23.6	25.9	15.1

Unmarried Mothers and Their Children

Although on 5th July, 1949, when the Children Act came into operation, Miss Thurman, who had previously been employed as Social Worker, took up the new appointment of Children's Officer, she continued, with the consent of the Children Committee, to investigate and advise these cases on behalf of the Health Committee until 31st July, 1950, from which date the Superintendent Nursing Officer became responsible for the work.

Births of Illegitimate Children notified	34
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Confinements in:—

Mother's own home	11
St. Monica's Maternity Home	6
Brettargh Holt Maternity Home	2
Helme Chase Maternity Home	...	...	...	...	7
Westmorland County Hospital	...	...	...	...	1
Bay View Hospital, Lancaster	...	...	...	...	2
Private Nursing Homes	...	...	...	...	2
Coledale Hall, Carlisle	...	...	...	...	1
Lancaster Royal Infirmary	...	...	...	...	1
Other address	...	...	...	...	1

Disposal of Infants:—

Mother keeping baby in own home	...	...	...	19
Mother found resident post with baby	...	...	...	3
Adoptions arranged or pending	...	...	...	6
Mother and baby with putative father	...	...	...	3
Baby placed in Orphanage	...	...	...	1
Baby died	...	...	...	1
Left the district	...	...	...	1

Institutional accommodation for these cases is provided under arrangements made with the undermentioned voluntary homes:—

St. Monica's Maternity Home, Kendal

The Home possesses 23 maternity beds, and during the year 61 maternity cases were admitted, ten of whom were domiciled in Westmorland.

Sacred Heart Maternity Home, Brettargh Holt, Kendal

This Home has 38 maternity beds, and during the year 114 maternity cases were admitted, only one of whom was domiciled in Westmorland.

In the case of both of the Homes, the apparently low number of admissions relative to the number of beds is largely explained by the fact that patients are admitted at least a month before confinement and retained for at least two months afterwards, so as to afford an opportunity for the making of arrangements for the care of the babies.

Care of Premature Infants

The following table gives details of premature infants born in the County during 1950:—

Premature births notified	...	...	...	...	50
Number of domiciliary births	...	...	...	...	9
Number who died within 24 hours	...	...	...	...	1
„ who survived one month	...	...	...	...	6
„ transferred to hospital	...	...	...	...	2
Number of private nursing home births	...	...	...	...	5
Number who survived one month	...	...	...	...	2

Details regarding the progress of babies born prematurely in hospitals are no longer available.

REGISTRATION OF NURSING HOMES

(Sections 187 to 194 of the Public Health Act, 1936)

There were 9 registered homes at the end of the year providing beds for 86 maternity patients and 73 other patients. They have been inspected at regular intervals.

DENTAL TREATMENT FOR EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

As the result of the fact that the County Dental staff consisted only of the Senior Dental Officer and one Assistant, and the inability of the County Council to replace those officers who have resigned in the past three years, it was not possible to do any dental treatment for the priority classes. The remaining members of the staff found all their time much more than fully occupied with school dental treatment. Until such time as the staff can be increased, treatment cannot be undertaken for expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children.

THE PUERPERAL PYREXIA REGULATIONS, 1939

During 1950, 3 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified; 2 institutional and 1 domiciliary; all recovered.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

In January, 1946, the County Council inaugurated Home Help and Domestic Help services for the assistance of maternity and other sick cases respectively, the scheme being the particular responsibility of the Social Worker; the Home Help and Domestic Help Schemes were distinguished for accountancy purposes only. When preparing their proposals under the National Health Service Act, the Council, on the advice of the Minister, took advantage of their power under Section 29 of the Act, to provide a Domestic Help Service, available as far as workers can be obtained to the categories of household specified in the Act. The service is now the responsibility of the Superintendent Nursing Officer, and its steady expansion of itself testifies to the previously unsatisfied need in this direction. Statistical details are shown in Table II on page 35.

MIDWIVES' ACTS

Total number of Midwives practising at the end of the year	62
District Nurse Midwives	40
Midwives in Institutions and in Private Practice, 22, viz.:—	
(a) Westmorland County Hospital	6
(b) Helme Chase Maternity Home	4
(c) St. Monica's Maternity Home, Kendal	3
(d) Brettargh Holt	3
(e) Private Practice:—	
Institutions	6

Midwives' Notification Forms received during 1950 were as follows:—

Notification of sending for Medical Aid	...	...	...	24
„ Artificial Feeding	...	...	...	25
„ Stillbirth	...	...	...	6
„ Death	...	...	...	3
„ having laid out a dead body	...	...	...	7
„ liability to be a source of infection	...	...	...	10

Gas Air Analgesia

The policy of the County Nursing Association was to train as many midwives as possible to administer gas and air, those nurses who had the largest number of cases and were anxious to qualify being selected first for the training courses.

The Council's proposals for the provision of a midwifery service, approved by the Minister, require that all midwives shall be trained and equipped for the induction of analgesia, and the stage has now been reached where all midwives, with the exception of a few of the older ones, are now trained. Should any newly appointed midwife be untrained in analgesia, steps are taken to provide a training course on the earliest possible opportunity.

During the year midwives have induced Analgesia in 202 domiciliary cases, and at the end of the year 33 District Nurse Midwives were qualified for the induction of Gas-Air Analgesia.

AMBULANCE SERVICES

Before 5th July, 1948, ambulance services were operated by various authorities in the County as follows:—

Kendal	...	...	...	2 ambulances
Ambleside	...	...	...	1 ambulance
Kirkby Stephen	...	...	1	„
Appleby	...	...	1	„
Windermere	...	...	1	„
Arnside	...	...	1	„
Penrith	...	...	1	„

In planning their service to operate from the appointed day, the County Council decided to operate the necessary ambulances directly, except that a part of the north of the County (detailed in the Table below) is covered by the Penrith Ambulance Station of the Cumberland County Council. In an effort to promote efficiency and economy the Chief Fire Officer has also been appointed County Ambulance

Officer and is responsible for the servicing, maintenance, communications and staffing of the Ambulance Service, though a proposal that ambulance drivers and attendants should be engaged also as members of the Fire Brigade has, after consultation with the Ministry of Health and the Home Office, now been rescinded.

Ambulances are now stationed as below:—

<i>Ambulance Station No.</i>	<i>Location of station.</i>	<i>No. of Ambulances.</i>	<i>Staff.</i>	<i>Area Served.</i>	<i>Pop. 1931.</i>
1.	KENDAL Fire Station	3	4 whole- time and retained	Kendal Borough Windermere U.D. South West'd R.D. North West'd R.D.: Parishes of Orton Tebay	16316 6083 17548 795 977 <hr/> 41719
2.	AMBLESIDE Commercial Garage	1	Retained	Lakes U.D. (except Patterdale Ward Lancashire (part) Ulverston R.D.: Parishes of— Claife Hawkshead Skelwith	5004 265 614 490 <hr/> 6373
3.	APPLEBY Commercial Garage	1	Retained	Appleby Borough North West'd R.D. All parishes except those served by Stations 1, 4 and 5	1618 5177 <hr/> 6795
4.	PENRITH (Service to be provided by Cumber- land County Council)	1	Retained	North West'd R.D.: Parishes of Mar- tindale Bamp- ton, Shap, Shap Rural, Thrimby, Lit. Strickland, Gt. Strickland, Lowther, Ask- ham, Barton, S o c k b r i d g e , Yanwath, Clif- ton, Brougham Lakes U.D.: Patterdale Ward	5340 817 <hr/> 6157

5.	K. STEPHEN Commercial Garage	1	Retained	North West'd R. D.: Parishes of Brough, Brough Sowerby, Crosby Garrett, Hartley, Hillbeck, Kaber, Kirkby Stephen, Mallerstang, Musgrave, Nate- by, Ravenstone- dale, Soulby, Stainmore, Waitby, Whar- ton, Winton	5129
					<hr/> 5129 <hr/>

The Council decided further that their sitting-case car scheme should be based on the Voluntary Hospital Car Service, and operated under the aegis of the British Red Cross Society, but even after the very considerable increase in the number of enrolled volunteers which has been secured it is now quite impossible for this voluntary service to meet the demands placed upon it, and recourse has had to be made to the services of commercial car-hire firms and taxi proprietors.

Details of the work by the ambulances and sitting-case cars are given in Table VII on page 38.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNTY AMBULANCE OFFICER

It was stated in my previous report that it was thought that the demand for the Ambulance Service had reached its peak. Compared with 1,642 cases carried in 1949 the number carried in 1950 was 2,119 — an increase of 29.05%. Despite the increase in the number of demands and mileage run, the Service has been able to cope with all requests made. I would, however, refer you to the additional clerical work that this Service adds to the already overloaded administrative work of the Fire Brigade.

The Ambulance Service continues to function from the four stations, i.e. Kendal, Ambleside, Appleby and Kirkby Stephen. With the exception of Kendal, where whole-time personnel are employed, the other stations are manned entirely by voluntary workers.

Ambulances

During the year two obsolete ambulances were disposed of, leaving a total of seven in commission. It is becoming increasingly difficult to keep certain of these on the run. They are becoming unreliable on account of age and general mechanical condition. Spares are very difficult to obtain and delay is caused in obtaining them. Annual costs of upkeep are soaring to a point where consideration should be given to their early replacement as an economical proposition.

One new Bedford-Lomas ambulance has been delivered during the year, and an order placed for a further one to be delivered in 1951 to replace the Austin at Appleby. Remaining to be replaced are the two Fords which are rapidly nearing the end of their usefulness.

Ambulances now in Commission

Station	Make	Year	Mileage 31 Dec., 1950	Condition
1. Kendal	Bedford (JM9344)	1949	20,201	Good
2. Kirkby Stephen	Bedford (JM8868)	1949	25,113	Good
3. Ambleside	Morris (JM7667)	1948	15,407	Good
4. Kendal	Ford (JM4803)	1939	84,548	Fair
5. Kendal	Ford (JM4627)	1939	95,076	Fair
6. Appleby	Austin (JM2540)	1936	104,062	Poor
7.* Kendal	Austin (JM1979)	1935	24,949	Fair

* This vehicle is used for Infectious cases only. It has recently been mechanically overhauled and repainted and should now be capable of remaining in service for a further year or so.

All Infectious removals are dealt with from Kendal by the whole-time personnel as the voluntary members of the Service are not prepared to handle such cases.

The maintenance of the vehicles at Kendal has been very ably carried out by the Fire Brigade Mechanic. It has only been through the lack of workshop facilities that it has been necessary to send some repairs to outside garages.

The Kirkby Stephen ambulance when returning from Carlisle on 11th October, 1950, met with an accident causing the vehicle to overturn. Some damage was caused to the vehicle, but I am very pleased to report that there were no personal injuries.

Ambulance Calls

Station	No.	Infectious	Accidents	Maternity	Others	Total	Mileage
Kendal	4	52	136	95	1,238	1,521	48,396
Ambleside	1	1	37	4	115	157	6,039
Appleby	1	—	16	21	147	184	8,846
Kirkby Stephen	1	—	19	43	195	257	19,070
Total	7	53	208	163	1,695	2,119	82,351

Average miles per call, 38.86

Note—1949	7	43	170	128	1,301	1,642	68,921
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Included in the above figures for 1950 are 30 removals (1,539 miles) which were undertaken for the Lancashire County Council.

The liaison at Hospitals, whereby ambulances arriving with patients report their presence and instead of returning empty pick up discharged patients and convey them en route, has worked very satisfactorily. Number of patients conveyed in this way was 103.

All ambulances are equipped with Resuscitating apparatus which on two occasions has been used on patients.

Personnel

Since increasing the whole-time staff at Kendal it has not been necessary, except in exceptional circumstances, to call upon any volunteers during the day-time. (Number of whole-time men, 5).

The members of the Kendal St. John Ambulance Brigade continue to give good service throughout the night time by providing attendants when required. Their help throughout the year has been very much appreciated.

The whole-time personnel have all during the year again qualified in "First Aid to the Injured".

Ambleside, Appleby and Kirkby Stephen ambulances continue to be efficiently run by voluntary members. These vehicles are garaged and serviced at Service Garages.

The practice of providing a female attendant when a female patient is being conveyed is still continued.

Accommodation

I again respectfully draw your attention to the need of accommodation for ambulances. Future planning should include buildings solely for the use of the Ambulance Service, including sitting-case cars.

Four ambulances are based at Kendal, three of which are garaged at the Fire Station, Aynam Road. The fourth is kept, owing to lack of room, at a Service Garage.

The garage accommodation occupied by the ambulances at the Fire Station could, with advantage, be used by the Fire Brigade vehicles and appliances, or to provide a much needed workshop.

In conclusion, I would again stress the necessity for replacing those ambulances referred to earlier in this report before they let the Service down.

Once again I would like to record my appreciation of the co-operation and loyalty of all staff, both whole-time and voluntary, throughout the year.

T. HASEMAN,

Ambulance Officer.

CARE OF BLIND PERSONS

Under the National Assistance Act, 1948, the County Council no longer has the power to give financial assistance to blind persons, but it is required to "make arrangements for promoting the welfare" not only of blind persons, but also of the partially sighted. Administrative responsibility for this work devolves upon the Council's Social Welfare Department, but the County Medical Officer is responsible for advising the Committee on "all matters relating to health or medical services arising in connection with the Council's functions under the Act . . . including, in particular, arrangements for the medical examination of applicants for registration as blind persons."

All such applicants are referred for examination to one of the specialist ophthalmologists with whom the Council has entered into arrangements for this work, and during 1950 sixteen such cases were referred, of whom eleven were certified as blind, and one as partially sighted.

The total number of Blind Persons on the Council's register on 31st December, 1950, was 100.

MENTAL HEALTH

As advised in Ministry of Health Circular 100/47, the Health Committee has appointed a Mental Health Sub-Committee to deal with its functions under Section 57 of the National Health Service Act, and, so far as they relate to Mental Defectives and Persons of Unsound Mind, under Section 28 of that Act. The Sub-Committee is constituted as follows:—

Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee ...	2
Members of the Health Committee (being members of the County Council)	10
Members of the Management Committees of Mental Hospitals and Mental Deficiency Institutions	4
Others (whether members of the Health Committee, or the County Council, or neither)	3

Duties Under the Mental Deficiency Acts

On the 5th July, 1948, this Authority took over from the Cumberland, Westmorland and Carlisle Joint Committee for the Care of the Mentally Defective the duty of ascertaining what defectives in the area were subject to be dealt with under the Acts, and the duty of providing supervision, care, training and occupations for defectives living in the community. Four officers have been authorised to place persons in a piece of safety, under Section 15 of the Mental Deficiency Act, 1913, of whom two have also been authorised to present petitions under that Act.

The County Medical Officer and the Assistant County Medical Officer have each been approved by the Local Health Authority under Section 3 of the Mental Deficiency Act, 1913, for the purposes of giving certificates relating to Mental Defectives. The Authority also employed a Mental Health Worker.

The Authority has undertaken, on behalf of the Regional Hospital Board, the supervision of cases on licence from Institutions who are resident within the area, and also the domiciliary visiting, as and when required, for patients in Institutions and Homes whose parents and friends are resident in Westmorland.

Mental Illness

The Psychiatric Clinic opened by Dr. Braithwaite in Kendal one day fortnightly was moved to alternative premises under the control of the Lancaster and Kendal Hospital Management Committee, and early in 1950 the Hospital Management Committee arranged for this clinic to open for weekly sessions, for it to operate in conjunction with Lancaster Moor Mental Hospital, and to come under the care of the medical staff of that hospital. One outstanding advantage afforded by the Clinic is that patients are brought under specialist supervision at an early stage in their mental illness, and many are found willing to enter hospital as voluntary patients.

The Mental Health Worker attends these sessions and does any visiting which may be required on behalf of patients in or discharged from the various Mental Hospitals.

She has also, from time to time, been asked by other Social Agencies and others to visit and advise in cases where the problem is thought to be of a psychiatric nature.

Occupation Centre

An Occupation Centre was opened in Kendal early in 1949 for one session each week for male and female patients. The numbers attending were, as expected in such a sparsely populated area, small — 4 males and 7 females — but progress was made in the teaching of rugmaking, embroidery, reading, writing, etc.

Both patients and their relatives are very enthusiastic regarding the progress made, and the latter appreciate being relieved of the responsibility for looking after the patients for a few hours each week. The standard of work in some cases was much higher than had been expected, whilst one of the male patients learned to make simple articles sufficiently well to continue with the work at home and to sell them at a profit.

Transport of Patients

In the case of patients who are acting, or who appear likely to act, violently, the Council's Ambulance Service is used for their removal to Hospital, but docile cases are taken by taxi under arrangements made with a car hire firm in Kendal.

A simplified version of the Annual Return to the Ministry, given on pages 32-34 of this Report, shows the number of cases for which the Council was responsible at the end of the year.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNTY ANALYST

1. During the year ended the 31st December, 1950, I have analysed 307 samples of Food and Drugs, submitted by the Sampling Officers appointed for the County of Westmorland, under the Food and Drugs

Act, 1938, and by the Chief Sanitary Inspector for the Borough of Kendal, viz.:—

From the Administrative County area	...	...	...	234
„ Borough of Kendal	...	...	...	73
				<hr/>
				307
				<hr/>

The sampling by the Chief Sanitary Inspector of the Borough of Kendal was discontinued at the 30th September, 1950, therefore, since that date, all samples have been submitted by the Sampling Officers who now undertake the sampling throughout what is now the Administrative County area.

2. Samples of genuine quality to the number of 213 have been certified in this respect, 32 samples were reported as being of genuine quality but below standard, 38 samples were reported as being adulterated or below standard, 2 samples of milk were reported as being of doubtful quality, owing to the fact that both the percentage of non-fatty solids, and also the freezing point, fell within the range of doubtful samples, whilst five samples of milk were taken as reference samples and 17 samples of milk were taken as appeal to cow samples.

3. The outcome of the analysis of all samples submitted during 1950, including those samples which were not found to be of genuine quality, or to disclose some other irregularity, is shown in the following Table:—

Number of Milk samples received for analysis	...	...	122
„ other samples received for analysis	...	...	185
			<hr/>
			307
			<hr/>

This shows that during the year ended 31st December, 1950, 46 fewer samples were submitted for analysis.

Number of samples adulterated or below standard, or showing some irregularity	...	...	38
„ samples of genuine quality, but below standard			32
„ samples of doubtful quality	...	...	2
„ Informal samples	...	...	25
„ Reference samples, taken in course of delivery			5
„ samples taken as Appeal to cow samples	...		17

4. Milk

Altogether 35 samples of milk taken in the ordinary course of inspection were found to fall below standard, and these were as follows:—

1 sample was deficient in Non-fatty Solids, but the freezing point could not be determined owing to the acidity of the sample when received.

25 samples contained added water, the presence of which was in each case confirmed by the results of the freezing point test.

6 samples were found to be deficient in Fat.

3 samples were deficient both in Fat and in Non-Fatty Solids.

Proceedings were instituted in twelve cases where there was undoubted evidence of the presence of added water, and in ten cases the defendants who were charged were convicted and fined; two cases are pending at the date of this report.

In four cases cautions were administered and in nineteen other cases no action was taken apart from noting the names of the vendors for further sampling.

5. Other Samples

During the twelve months ended the 31st December, 1950, 185 samples of articles of food, or of commodities used in the preparation of food were received for analysis.

Of these only three samples were the subject of adverse reports and they were as follows:—

1 sample of Pork Sausages was deficient in meat content to the extent of 7%.

1 sample of Rum Butter contained 27.5% of Total Fat, of which 76% was fat other than Butter Fat.

1 sample of Sponge Mixture was found to be infested by mites to such an extent as to render it unsuitable for human consumption — this sample was withdrawn from sale and also the stock from which it was procured.

6. Apart from the above observations, unless there is any significant question which may arise, there is nothing further to add.

CYRIL J. H. STOCK,
County Analyst.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

Annual Report of Sampling Officer for the year, 1950

This report covers the period 1st January to 31st December, 1950, and includes duties undertaken in the Borough of Kendal from the 1st October, 1950, from which date, sampling duties previously delegated to the Town Council, were revoked.

The sampling officers have carried out preliminary sorting checks on 862 churns of milk in transit and in addition, by means of the Gerber equipment, 219 informal office tests were made as follows:—

81	on samples from churns of milk in transit.
114	„ purchased from milk roundsmen.
24	„ from milk supplied to schools.

A further 338 samples were obtained, but having regard to the results of the office tests on milk, it was only found necessary to send 234 samples comprising 89 milk and 145 others, for analysis by the Public Analyst.

Analysed by the Public Analyst

The quantity submitted as a sample of Lemon Flavouring Essence was declared by the Public Analyst as insufficient for comprehensive examination thus reducing the total number of samples analysed by the Public Analyst to 233.

Other than Milk

The 144 samples other than milk were mainly foodstuffs or constituents used in the preparation of food and comprised 130 formal and 14 informal samples from 116 different commodities.

One sample of Sponge Cake and Pudding Mixture, slightly infested by food mites was classified as "Not of satisfactory quality for human consumption". The small stock of this commodity remaining in the possession of the Shopkeeper was immediately withdrawn from sale.

The remainder of the samples other than milk were classified as genuine.

Milk Samples

It will be appreciated that there is no significance in calculating the percentage of unsatisfactory samples from the figures set out in tabular form (hereunder), since samples, other than "Reference or Appeal to Cow", are submitted to the Public Analyst as a result of information gained on informal tests.

CLASSIFICATION

Classification	OBTAINED FROM		Reference or Follow up	Appeal to cow	Total
	Retailer	Wholesaler			
Genuine ..	11	—	1	5	17
Genuine but below standard in non-fatty solids	9	13	5	9	36
Doubtful	1	1	3	—	5
Below standard in Fat	2	2	1	—	5
Containing added water	1	13	12	—	26
	24	29	22	14	89

Two (2) "Reference" and 2 "Appeal to Cow" samples included in the Table were obtained by the Cumberland Sampling Officers, at the request of and, acting on behalf of your Sampling Officers.

The action taken in respect of the 31 unsatisfactory samples, i.e. below standard in fat or containing added water, was as follows:—

- 3 persons, in respect of 3 samples deficient in fat, were noted for further sampling.
- 3 persons, in respect of 5 samples containing added water, were noted for further sampling.
- 1 person, in respect of 2 samples deficient in fat, was warned by letter.
- 4 persons, in respect of 8 samples containing added water, were warned by letter.
- 5 persons, in respect of 13 samples containing added water, were prosecuted.

PROSECUTIONS

Persons charged	AMOUNTS OF		Fine	Costs
	Fat deficiency	Added water		
I	—	6.4% 7.0%	£ 8 s. d. 0 0	£ 5 s. d. 7 6
I	—	8.0% 7.0%	8 0 0	5 7 6
I	—	8.6% 13.6%	9 0 0	7 16 0
I	—	23.5%	10 0 0	3 7 6
I	—	13% 11% 12% 4.7%	20 0 0	9 0 0
5			£55 0 0	£30 18 6

Milk Pasteurising Plants

The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, requires milk pasteurising and sterilising establishments to obtain annual licences from the Food and Drugs Authority. The licences are issued subject to certain conditions which include methods by which milk is pasteurised or sterilised and prescribe the clinical and other tests to be applied to milk.

There is, at the present time, only one pasteuriser's plant operating under licence in Westmorland and from which, 18 samples have, at intervals, been obtained and submitted to the Department of Pathology, Public Health Laboratory Services.

Of the samples submitted, 1 failed to comply with the standard required, 2 were described as "test void", and the remainder were classified as satisfactory in passing the prescribed tests.

Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933

The sellers of poisons listed in Part II of the Poisons List are required to obtain a licence in respect of such poisons and to comply with such provisions of the Act and Poisons Rules, 1949, as relate to Part II poisons.

The total number of premises visited under this heading was 144 and 8 infringements noted were corrected at the time of visiting.

The total number of listed sellers of Part II poisons at the 31st December, 1950, was 188.

Food Labelling

The Labelling of Food Order, 1950, revokes and replaces the Labelling of Food Order, 1946, and its amending Orders in respect of the labelling of pre-packed foods. It is chiefly a consolidating Order and certain existing provisions not re-enacted have been incorporated in the Pre-Packed Food (Weights and Measures Marking) Order, 1950, which came into operation on the 1st November, 1950.

The undermentioned Orders have been received during the year:—

Title.	Effect.
The Food Standards (Preserves) (Amendment) Order, 1950.	To raise the minimum fruit content of certain jams.
The Meat Products and Canned Meat (Amendment) Order, 1950.	To increase the maximum price and the meat content in pork sausages, pork sausage meat and pork slicing meat.
The Flour (Amendment, 103) Order, 1950.	To increase the standard.
The Food Standards (Fish Cakes) Order, 1950.	Prescribes a standard for Fish Cakes.
Mineral Oil in Food (Amendment) Order, 1950.	Provides limited easement from complete restriction of mineral oil found in or on the surface of foods.
Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) (Amendment) Regulations, 1950.	Amends prescribed method of laboratory test of milk.
The Soft Drinks (Amendment) Order, 1950.	Amends the existing standards for soft drinks.
The Food & Drugs (Milk, Dairies and Artificial Cream) Act, 1950.	A consolidating Act which revokes, re-enacts and re-arranges existing provisions.

A. BRYANT,

Chief Sampling Officer.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

A Table will be found on page 39 detailing the incidence of these diseases in 1950. The Registrar-General has supplied figures as to the incidence per 1,000 of the estimated average population of notification of certain diseases in 1950 in England and Wales. In the following Table the incidence of notification of these diseases per 1,000 of the estimated population of Westmorland is compared with that of England and Wales:—

	Westmorland.		England & Wales.	
	1949.	1950.	1949.	1950.
Typhoid Fever ...	—	—	0.01	—
Paratyphoid Fever ...	—	—	0.01	0.01
Meningococcal Infection ...	—	0.01	0.02	0.03
Scarlet Fever ...	0.50	0.69	1.63	1.50
Whooping Cough ...	4.58	4.23	2.39	3.60
Diphtheria ...	—	—	0.04	0.02
Erysipelas ...	0.13	0.13	0.19	0.17
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	6.45	5.22	8.95	8.39
Pneumonia ...	0.41	0.43	0.80	0.70
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)—				
Paralytic ...	0.29	0.01	0.14	0.13
Non-Paralytic ...		0.03		0.05
Food Poisoning ...	0.03	2.08	0.14	0.17

CANCER TREATMENT

The following details have been supplied by courtesy of the Lancaster and Kendal Hospital Management Committee:—

Number of Clinics held at Kendal during the year ending

31st December, 1950	...	...	...	...	12
,, new cases seen	...	...	...	...	77
,, follow-up cases seen	...	...	...	...	197

Number of cases admitted to the County Hospital:—

New cases	...	...	...	...	17
Follow-up cases	...	...	...	...	2

The only duty now remaining to the County Council under the Cancer Act concerns the prohibition of advertisements relating to the treatment of cancer and to the sale of articles for use in the treatment thereof. The actual treatment of this condition now forms part of the general hospital and specialist services which it is the duty of the Regional Hospital Boards to provide.

Deaths from Cancer, 1949 and 1950

	1949.			1950.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Urban Districts	20	38	58	51	35	86
Rural Districts	28	35	63	33	36	69
			<hr/>			<hr/>
Grand Total	...	121		Grand Total	...	155
		<hr/>			<hr/>	

TUBERCULOSIS

In the following Table are the figures for the notifications of, and deaths from, Tuberculosis in 1950:—

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
1	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
5	1	1	3	3	1	—	1	—
15	5	8	1	—	1	—	—	—
25	4	9	—	2	3	3	—	—
35	3	3	2	1	3	—	—	1
45	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55	3	1	—	1	3	1	1	1
65	2	—	—	—	3	1	—	—
TOTAL	24	22	7	7	15	5	4	2
1949	28	15	7	4	8	13	1	—

In 1950, 24 Westmorland patients were admitted to the Westmorland Sanatorium, Meathop.

Ten patients suffering from surgical tuberculosis of the bones or joints received in-patient treatment as follows:—

In the Oswestry Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	7
In Wrightington Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	3

TUBERCULOSIS SCHEME

Although responsibility for the treatment of tuberculosis patients passed to the Regional Hospital Board on 5th July, 1948, leaving prevention and after-care as the only responsibilities of the County Council, we were fortunate in being able to retain the services and advice of Dr. Campbell, during the change-over period, and although his transfer to the Manchester Regional Hospital Board has now somewhat loosened his ties with the Health Department, it is indeed comforting to know that in his new capacity as Consultant Chest Physician in the Lancaster and Kendal area he will retain responsibility for the tuberculosis service in the greater part of the County. The County Council has also made financial arrangements with the Regional Hospital Board designed to secure Dr. Campbell's services for that part of the work which is still the responsibility of the Council.

The main dispensary was at the Chest Clinic, Fellside School, Kendal, where sessions were held on Mondays, 5 p.m. to 6 p.m., and Fridays, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and patients were also seen, by appointment, at Meathop.

Until February, 1947, all X-ray work and out-patient treatment for the County was carried out at the Westmorland Sanatorium, but since then the provision of a Solus X-ray Set at the Kendal Clinic has almost entirely relieved the Sanatorium of this work, though the exposed films from the Clinic are taken to the Sanatorium for developing, as no provision has been made for this in Kendal. Largely owing to this addition to the equipment, the attendances at the Dispensary showed a steady increase.

The Borough of Appleby and North Westmorland Rural District are included in the area of the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Regional Hospital Board, the services for Cumberland and this part of Westmorland being administered by a Special Area Committee. This Committee has also appointed a Consultant Chest Physician.

Pulmonary cases requiring treatment were admitted to Westmorland Sanatorium, though in a few cases transfer to another hospital (such as Chest Unit, Broadgreen Hospital, Liverpool) was made for special operative treatment.

The majority of the adult non-pulmonary cases have been admitted to the Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopædic Hospital, Oswestry, whilst child patients usually go to the Ethel Hedley Orthopædic Hospital, Windermere.

During the autumn of the year under review a Mass Miniature Radiography Unit visited the south of the County, being located for varying periods at Kendal, Milnthorpe, Staveley and Windermere. A full statistical analysis of the work done has not yet been received, but the following is a summary of the information available:—

District.	Number of persons examined.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Kendal	3,163	2,589	5,752
Staveley	77	99	176
Windermere and Ambleside	527	422	949
Milnthorpe	486	238	724
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	4,253	3,348	7,601
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Included in the above figures are 869 school children (males, 438; females, 431).

Of the grand total of 7,601 persons initially examined, 92 (60 males and 32 females) were referred to the Chest Clinic, and 26 (12 males and 14 females) were referred to their own doctors by the Medical Director of the Radiography Unit.

BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS

The Tuberculosis Order, 1938, is carried out by the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, in co-operation with the County Police.

During the period 1st January to 31st December, 1950, 13 animals were slaughtered under the above Order as follows:—

Cows in Milk:—

5 suffered from chronic cough.

6 excreting or discharging tuberculous material.

1 emaciation.

Other cows:—

1 suffered from chronic cough.

Compensation to owners is paid by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

MILK SUPPLIES

The Milk and Dairies (Food and Drugs) Act, 1944, remained in abeyance from the date of its enactment until 1st October, 1949, on which date the County Council ceased to be responsible for the licensing of producers of Tuberculin Tested and Accredited Milk.

This Act and the Regulations made thereunder brought about the following position:—

- (a) The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries became responsible for the registration and supervision of dairy farms (hitherto the responsibility of the County District Councils).
- (b) The County District Councils became responsible for the registration and supervision of milk distributors and dairies, other than dairy farms.
- (c) The County Council became responsible for the licensing and supervision of pasteurising and sterilising premises (hitherto the responsibility of the County District Councils).

The Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries is now responsible for:—

- (i) The registration and supervision of dairy farms.
- (ii) The licensing and supervision of producers of Tuberculin Tested and Accredited Milk.

The County Council is responsible for:—

The licensing and supervision of pasteurising and sterilising premises.

The County District Councils are responsible for:—

- (i) The registration and supervision of milk distributors and dairies, other than dairy farms.
- (ii) The licensing of dealers of designated milk.

The Regulations also laid down detailed requirements in the matters of cleanliness of dairies, milk containers, retail vehicles and milk handlers, as well as methods of sampling and testing milk. The powers of Medical Officers of Health to deal with the problem of milk-borne infectious diseases are also strengthened.

It is further provided that all licences to use the designation "Accredited" shall lapse on 30th September, 1954, and shall not be renewable; no new licence to use the designation "Tuberculin Tested" will be granted after 30th September, 1954, unless the herd is Attested, and after 30th September, 1957, all "Tuberculin Tested" licences still in force will apply only to attested herds.

A further stage in the campaign to secure a safe milk supply was reached with the enactment of the Milk (Special Designations) Act, 1949, which provides that in areas specified from time to time by the Minister of Food, no milk may be sold by retail unless it carries one of the special designations.

Licences to pasteurise milk have been granted in respect of one establishment in the County, and routine sampling of the treated milk is carried out by the Weights and Measures Department of the Council.

WATER SUPPLIES

There has been no substantial change in the water supply to the various areas of the County during the past year, with the exception of the provision of a public water supply to the Lyth Valley which is not yet completed.

TREATMENT OF VENEREAL DISEASES

Treatment of Venereal Disease has now passed to the Regional Hospital Board. The problem of V.D. has never been a large one in Westmorland. The establishment of the Kendal Clinic has had a useful part to play. The journey to Lancaster or Barrow or Carlisle has deterred a number of patients from having regular treatment,

with the result that there was an increase in the number of defaulting patients. The figures supplied show that syphilis is still present. The figures for gonorrhœa can still be improved on.

Westmorland cases treated at the following Centres for the year ended 31st December, 1950, are as follows:—

New Cases					
CENTRE	Syphilis.	Soft Chancre.	Gonorrhœa.	Non- venereal and undiagnosed conditions.	Total number of cases.
Carlisle	—	—	4	4	8
Kendal	5	—	10	20	35
Lancaster	2	—	—	7	9
	—	—	—	—	—
Total	7	—	14	31	52
	—	—	—	—	—

A Venereal Diseases Clinic commenced at the Fellside Dispensary, Kendal, on the 4th June, 1948, and weekly sessions are now held at the Westmorland County Hospital.

MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS, 1913-1938

Particulars of Cases Reported during the Year 1950

Ascertainment

	Males.	Females.	Total.
(a) Cases reported by Local Education Authority:—			
(i) As ineducable	—	—	—
(ii) As needing care and supervision after leaving school...	1	2	3
(b) Other cases found "subject to be dealt with"	—	—	—
TOTAL cases found "subject to be dealt with"	1	2	3
(c) Other cases ascertained but not "subject to be dealt with"	—	—	—
TOTAL cases reported during the year	1	2	3

Disposal of cases reported during the year

	Males.	Females.	Total.
(a) Ascertained defectives found "subject to be dealt with:—			
(i) Admitted to Institutions ...	—	—	—
(ii) Placed under Statutory Supervision	1	2	3
(iii) Died or removed from area ...	—	—	—
(iv) Action not yet taken ...	—	—	—
	—	—	—
Total ...	1	2	3
	—	—	—
(b) Cases not at present "subject to be dealt with":—			
Placed under Voluntary Supervision	—	—	—

MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS, 1913-1938

Particulars of Mental Defectives on 31st December, 1950

	Males.	Females.	Total.
(1) Number of Defectives found "subject to be dealt with":—			
(a) In Institutions—			
Under 16 years of age ...	5	4	9
Aged 16 years and over ...	52	41	93
(b) Under Guardianship—			
Under 16 years of age ...	—	1	1
Aged 16 years and over ...	1	2	3
(c) Under Statutory Supervision—			
Under 16 years of age ...	4	5	9
Aged 16 years and over ...	12	1	13
(d) Action not yet taken under (a) to (c) above	—	—	—
	—	—	—
TOTAL number of defectives "subject to be dealt with"	74	54	128
	—	—	—

Included in (b) to (d) above are 4 cases (1 male and 3 female) who are awaiting removal to an Institution.

(2) Number of Defectives under Voluntary Supervision :—

				Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 16 years of age	...	...	—	—	—	—
Aged 16 years and over	...	...	17	32	49	—
Total				17	32	49
TOTAL number of defectives (1) and (2) above				91	86	177

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919

Under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, which came into operation on the 1st of April, 1950, the duties of pest destruction were transferred to the District Councils, and the services of the two Rodent Operatives were dispensed with on the 31st March, 1950.

STATISTICAL TABLES

The following Tables are a simplified version of the Annual Returns now required by the Ministry of Health :—

TABLE I

ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS

(1)	No. of clinics provided (2)	No. of sessions per month (3)	No. of women who attended (4)	No. of women in col. 4 who had not attended a clinic since previous confinement (5)	Total attendances (6)
Ante-natal	1 *(ante-natal and post-natal)	4	7	3	13
Post-natal			5	4	6

* Ceased February, 1950.

TABLE II

DOMESTIC HELPS

(a) Number of Domestic Helps employed at 31st December, 1950:—

(1) Whole-time	...	...	...	...	...	7
(2) Part-time	...	...	...	...	...	26

(b) Number of cases where Help was provided:—

(1) Maternity	...	...	...	...	...	65
(2) Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	3
(3) Others	...	...	...	...	...	134

TABLE III

HOME NURSING

NO. OF HOME NURSES EMPLOYED ON 31-12-50	Equivalent of Whole- time services devoted to Home Nursing in Cols. (1) and (2). (3)	No. of Visits paid by Home Nurses during the period. (4)	No. of cases attended by Home Nurses during the period (5)	
Whole-time on Home Nursing. (1)	Part-time on Home Nursing. (2)			
—	39	12.6	74,330	3,720

TABLE IV
INFANT WELFARE CENTRES

Number provided (1)	No. of sessions per month (2)	No. of children who attended (3)	No. of children who first attended and who were on first attendance:		No. of children who were at end of year:		Total No. of attendances made by children included in col. 3:	
			Under 1 year old (4)	Over 1 year old (5)	Under 1 year old (6)	Over 1 year old (7)	Under 1 year old (8)	Over 1 year old (9)
15	20	1269	349	63	331	938	2270	2387

TABLE V
HEALTH VISITING

No. of Health Visitors employed:		Equivalent of cols. 1 and 2 in terms of whole-time Health Visitors (3)	NO. OF VISITS PAID BY HEALTH VISITORS:					
			Expectant Mothers:		Children under 1 year old:		Children between 1 and 5 years old:	
Whole-time on Health Visiting (1)	Part-time on Health Visiting (2)		First Visits (4)	Total Visits (5)	First Visits (6)	Total Visits (7)	First Visits (8)	Total Visits (9)
2	35	10.2	107	464	901	10,103	269	12,674
							First Visits (10)	Total Visits (11)
							684	2,195

TABLE VI

MIDWIVES' ACTS, 1902-1936—RETURN OF LOCAL SUPERVISING AUTHORITY

1. Maternity Cases Attended

		NO. OF MATERNITY CASES IN THE AREA ATTENDED BY MIDWIVES DURING THE PERIOD:						
		Domiciliary Cases:		Cases in Institutions:			Total Cases:	
(1)		As Midwives (2)	As Maternity Nurses (3)	As Midwives (4)	As Maternity Nurses (5)	As Midwives (6)	As Maternity Nurses (7)	
MIDWIVES EMPLOYED BY:								
(a)	the Authority	109	203	Nil.	Nil.	109	203	
(b)	Voluntary Organisations ..	Nil.	Nil.	137	11	137	11	
(c)	Hospital Management Committees	Nil.	Nil.	48	403	48	403	
	Midwives in private practice ..	Nil.	Nil.	4	127	4	127	
	TOTALS	109	203	189	541	298	744	

2. Midwives in Private Practice

(a) Domiciliary	...	...	...	...	—
(b) In Nursing Homes	...	...	...	...	10	10
					—	

3. Medical Aid under Section 14 (1) of the Midwives Act, 1918

No. of cases in which medical aid was summoned during the period:—

(a) For Domiciliary cases:—						
(i) Where the Medical Practitioner had arranged to provide Maternity Services under the National Health Service Act, 1946	...	...	...	...	5	
(ii) Other cases	...	...	...	...	6	
					—	11
(b) For cases in Institutions	...	...	...	...		13

4. Administration of Analgesia

(a) Number of Midwives in practice in the area qualified to administer Analgesics:—						
(i) Domiciliary	...	...	...	...	33	
(ii) In Institutions	...	...	...	...	8	
					—	41
(b) Number of sets of Analgesic apparatus in use by the Authority's midwives	...					31
(c) Number of cases in which Analgesics were administered in domiciliary practice:—						
(i) by midwives	...	...	...	...	78	
(ii) by maternity nurses	...	...	...	...	124	
					—	202

TABLE VII
AMBULANCE SERVICES

(1)	No. of Vehicles at 31-12-50 (2)	Total No. of calls. (3)	Total No. of patients carried. (4)	Number of accident and emergency calls included in co., (3). (5)	Total mileage during period. (6)
Ambulances	... 7	2,119	2,350	371	82,351
Cars	...See below*	3,655	4,750	31	164,700

NOTE:—* The Sitting-case Car Service was provided by voluntary drivers enrolled by the British Red Cross Society and by taxis; at the end of the year 76 voluntary drivers were on the roll, and 70 taxi proprietors had agreed to provide this service.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1950

	Smallpox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Other Forms of Tuberculosis	Pneumonia	Undulant Fever	Acute Poliomyelitis non-paralytic	Acute Poliomyelitis Paralytic	Acute Polio-Encephalitis	Amoebic Dysentery	Sonne Dysentery	Puerperal Pyrexia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Measles	Whooping Cough	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	Malaria	Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	Food Poisoning	Acute Infectious Encephalitis
Appleby	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	32	1	—	—	—	—	—
Kendal	—	7	—	1	19	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	10	2	—	44	46	—	—	—	—	28
Lakes	—	10	—	2	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	6	4	—	—	—	—	—
Windermere	—	2	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18	15	—	—	—	—	5
N Westmorland	—	12	—	2	12	5	21	—	1	—	—	8	12	—	—	95	43	—	—	—	1	—
S Westmorland	—	12	—	3	10	5	7	—	—	1	—	—	7	—	—	153	173	—	—	—	—	106
Totals 1950	—	46	—	9	46	14	29	—	1	2	—	8	30	3	—	348	282	—	—	—	1	139
Totals 1949	—	33	—	9	43	11	27	—	17		2	—	—	2	—	428	304	—	—	—	—	2

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1950

Ages	Smallpox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Undulant Fever	Acute Poliomye- litis non-paralytic	Acute Poliomye- litis Paralytic	Acute Polio- encephalitis	Amoebic Dysentery	Sonne Dysentery	Puerperal Pyrexia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Measles	Whooping Cough	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	Malaria	Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	Food Poisoning	Acute Infectious Encephalitis
Under 1 year ..	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	21	—	—	—	—	—
1 " ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	—	23	31	—	—	1	—	—
2 " ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	25	29	—	—	—	—	—
3 " ..	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	36	50	—	—	—	—	—
4 " ..	—	4	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	32	38	—	—	—	—	—
5 " ..	—	21	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	6	—	—	166	100	—	—	—	—	—
10- " ..	—	7	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	35	3	—	—	—	—	1
15- " ..	—	4	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—
20- " ..	—	2	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	4	5	2	—	14	2	—	—	—	—	—
35- " ..	—	1	—	1	8	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	3	—	—	—	—	—
45- " ..	—	1	—	3	4	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over ..	—	—	—	3	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Total Cases notified ..	—	46	—	9	29	—	1	2	—	8	30	3	—	348	282	—	—	1	*139	1
Cases admitted to Hospital	—	29	—	2	3	—	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	1	6	—	—	1	—	1
Total Deaths ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* Age distribution not known